

## **Abstract**

A transaction system includes the use of a fixed data structure that allows multiple point-of-sale systems to recognize and access a transaction card regardless of upper level user interfaces. More specifically, a smart card includes a memory with a defined data file structure, wherein the data file structure includes at least one read only field, at least one encrypted read/write field, and at least one non-encrypted read/write field. The read only field preferably includes at least one of a manufacturer identification field, a card identification field and a theater identification field. The encrypted read/write field preferably includes at least one of a transaction log field, an issue date field, a first dollar value field, a second dollar value field, a first point value field, a second point value field and a ticket storage field. The non-encrypted read/write field preferably includes at least one of a first dollar value display field, a second dollar value display field, a first point value display field, a second point value display field and a user defined field. The smart card is utilized in a transaction system the includes at least one smart card authorization device, a communication interface, and a transaction verification server. The smart card authorization device interacts with a defined data file structure provided on a smart card of the type described above.

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